

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERN 02228 181034Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 BIB-01 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 TRSE-00 (ISO) W
-----182324Z 071992 /40

R 180915Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4356
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
USMISSION BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 2228

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE SZ
SUBJECT: CSCE: CONSULTATION WITH GOS

1. SUMMARY: IN CONVERSATION WITH POL/ECON COUNSELOR,
PETAR TROENDLE ON AMB HEGNER'S STAFF, FEDERAL POLITICAL DEPT,
GAVE US AN ACCOUNT OF THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES'
CSCE MEETING IN BRUSSELS MAY 9-10. TROENDLE SAID
THAT ALMOST ALL THE DISCUSSION WAS ABOUT THE ORGANI-
ZATION OF THE CONFERENCE. THERE WAS ALSO AN EX-
CHANGE OF VIEWS ON SOVIET AND EASTERN EUROPEAN
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INTENTIONS. HE SAID THAT ONLY THE SWEDISH PROPOSAL
ON CBM'S WAS DISCUSSED, AND THAT ONLY BRIEFLY. THE
SWISS ARBITRATION OF DISPUTES PROPOSAL WAS NOT
DISCUSSED. END SUMMARY.

2. TROENDLE BELIEVES THAT THE NEUTRALS ARE IN
AGREEMENT THAT THE JUNE CONFERENCE SHOULD BE RE-

STRICTED TO PROCEDURAL ISSUES, I.E. THE ORGANIZATION OF THE OCTOBER MEETING. THERE WAS SOME DOUBT EXPRESSED AS TO WHETHER A TRUE SEPARATION OF PROCEDURE FROM SUBSTANCE COULD BE MAINTAINED. THE OCTOBER CONFERENCE SHOULD OPEN AND CLOSE IN PUBLIC SESSION, WITH PRIVATE SESSIONS AND MEETINGS OF WORKING GROUPS IN BETWEEN. THERE SHOULD BE NO DEADLINE FOR BRINGING THE OCTOBER CONFERENCE TO AN END. THE JUNE MEETING SHOULD BE HELD TO FOUR WEEKS WITH AN EXTENSION LIMITED TO 10 DAYS AT THE MOST.

3. TROENDLE CHARACTERIZED THE BERN MEETING AS AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON POSSIBILITIES. NONE OF THOSE PRESENT VOICED CLEAR IDEAS ABOUT HOW TO PROCEED, NOT TOWARDS WHAT END OTHER THAN THAT OF PRESERVING THE SPIRIT OF DETENTE. NONE WANT A "PLIEMICAL" MEETING; ON THE OTHER HAND THEY ALL WANT A COMPLETE REVIEW; BUT THEY APPARENTLY AGREED THAT WHETHER ONE COULD BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT THE OTHER WILL DEPEND PRIMARILY ON THE INTENTIONS OF THE SOVIETS AND EASTERN EUROPEANS.

4. EACH COUNTRY MENTIONED AREAS IN WHICH IT WANTED TO SEE REAL IMPROVEMENTS; E.G., THE SWEDES ON CBM'S THE FINNS CULTURAL EXCHANGE, AND THE SWISS EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION. THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION ABOUT THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE NEUTRALS COULD CONCERT THEIR POLICIES, AND AGREEMENT THAT THEY WOULD NOT ACT AS A BLOC.

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5. REFTTEL CONTAINS A REPORT ON THE DISCUSSION OF SOVIET INTENTIONS. TROENDLE ADDED THAT THE SWISS ARE NOT OVERLY PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS AT THE ECE, WHICH IN THE SWISS VIEW GIVE RISE TO THE CONCERN, SHARED BY THE OTHER NEUTRALS, AS TO HOW THE SOVIETS WILL DEAL WITH THIS QUESTION AT BELGRADE. HE SAID THERE WAS LITTLE OR NO DISCUSSION OF THE SOVIETS' NON-FIRST-USE PROPOSAL.

6. TO SUM UP, THE NEUTRALS, UNCERTAIN AS THEY ARE ABOUT THE INTENTIONS OF OTHERS, WERE UNABLE ON MAY 9-10 TO GO MUCH BEYOND THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS THAT OCCURRED AT THEIR LAST MEETING.
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